

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. Claims 1, 5, and 7-9 are now in the case. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. Claims 2-4, 6, and 10-13 have been canceled. Claims 14-18 have been withdrawn.

The Examiner has required that Applicants elect one of the following groups:

Group I. Claims 1-13 are drawn to CTGF homologs, nucleic acids encoding homologs, and recombinant methods of producing homologs, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.

Group II. Claim 14 is drawn to antibodies, classified in class 530, subclass 387.9.

Group III. Claim 15 is drawn to an immunoassay, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

Group IV. Claim 16 is drawn to an anti-idiotypic antibody, classified in 530, subclass 387.2.

Group V. Claims 17-18 are drawn to diagnosis of 6q chromosomal abnormality, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

Applicants elect Group I. As required in the restriction requirement, Applicants further make a species election of nucleotides 85-1078 of SEQ ID NO:2.

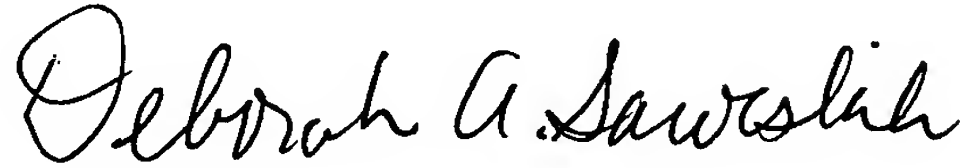
Applicants request the Examiner enter the claims as amended in the Claim Listing enclosed herein. These amendments have been made so the scope of the pending claims differ from the claim of issued U.S. Patent No. 6,395,890. No rejection for reasons of patentability have been made in this case; Applicants expressly retain the right to prosecute the subject matter of the original claims in further pending applications.

In the claims, nucleotide 86 has been amended to recite nucleotide 85. The change to correct this typographical error is supported by the sequence listing where the corresponding amino acid residue 24 begins at nucleotide number 85. Furthermore, on page 14, lines 20-24, the specification recites "Thus, zCTGF4 polypeptide encoding polynucleotides ranging from nucleotide 17 or **85** to nucleotide 1078 of SEQ ID NO:2 or nucleotide 1 or 69 to 1062 of SEQ ID NO:3 are contemplated by the present invention."

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. Consideration of the application and its

allowance are requested. If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (206) 442-6672.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures:

Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
Petition for Extension of Time
Postcard